
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS COMPLETING A TERM OF
IMPRISONMENT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. (a) There is established within the judiciary
2 a five-year recidivism prevention pilot program consisting of
3 three components: the housing voucher program, child care
4 voucher program, and tax credit for employers, to assist the
5 reentry efforts of program participants for two years following
6 the individual's exit from a correctional center.

7 (b) A program participant shall be an individual:

8 (1) Who is a resident of Hawaii;

9 (2) Who exited from the women's community correctional
10 center;

11 (3) Whose household income does not exceed eighty per cent
12 of the area median income; and

13 (4) Who is employed and either:

14 (A) Works for twenty or more hours in a workweek; or



1 (B) Spends twenty or more hours per workweek working
2 or participating in programs relating to
3 education, substance abuse, or parenting.

4 (c) Housing voucher program. The housing voucher program
5 shall provide program participants with housing vouchers on a
6 first-come first-served basis; provided that the program
7 participant continues to satisfy the eligibility criteria in
8 subsection (b); provided further that the aggregate amount of
9 financial assistance provided under the pilot program has not
10 reached the maximum amount set forth in subsection (f). Each
11 housing voucher shall not exceed \$ and shall be used
12 for:

13 (1) Rent for the program participant's primary residence;
14 or

15 (2) Down payment or mortgage payments for the program
16 participant's primary residence; provided further that
17 the program participant shall not own, operate, or
18 control any other residential real property.

19 (d) Child care voucher program. The child care voucher
20 program shall provide program participants with child care



1 vouchers on a first-come first-served basis; provided that the
2 program participant:

3 (1) Continues to satisfy the eligibility criteria in
4 subsection (b);

5 (2) Has a child for whom the program participant has
6 physical custody; and

7 (3) Does not receive any child care subsidies;

8 provided further that the aggregate amount of financial
9 assistance provided under the pilot program has not reached the
10 maximum amount set forth in subsection (f). Each child care
11 voucher shall not exceed \$ per child and shall be used
12 for payment of fees to a child care facility for providing
13 services to the program participant's child.

14 (e) Income tax credit for employment of program
15 participants. There shall be allowed to each taxpayer subject
16 to the tax imposed by chapter 235, Hawaii Revised Statutes, a
17 credit for employment of program participants, which shall be
18 deductible from the taxpayer's net income tax liability, if any,
19 imposed by chapter 235, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the taxable
20 year in which the credit is properly claimed.



- 1 (1) The amount of the credit under this subsection for the
2 taxable year shall be equal to the amount of
3 contributions paid by the taxpayer pursuant to section
4 383-61, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the program
5 participant;
- 6 (2) The credit allowed under this subsection shall be
7 claimed against the employer's net income tax
8 liability for the taxable year. A tax credit under
9 this subsection that exceeds the taxpayer's income tax
10 liability may be used as a credit against the
11 taxpayer's income tax liability in subsequent years
12 until exhausted;
- 13 (3) All claims for tax credits under this subsection,
14 including any amended claims, shall be filed on or
15 before the end of the twelfth month following the
16 close of the taxable year for which the credits may be
17 claimed. Failure to comply with the foregoing
18 provision shall constitute a waiver of the right to
19 claim the credit;



1 (4) The judiciary shall inform the department of taxation
2 of the identity of program participants and their
3 employers; and

4 (5) The department of labor and industrial relations may
5 provide the department of taxation with the
6 information necessary to verify all claims for tax
7 credits under this subsection.

8 (f) The aggregate monetary amount of vouchers provided to
9 program participants by the State under subsections (c) and (d)
10 shall not exceed \$30,000 for each fiscal year.

11 (g) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter
12 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and prescribe forms to be used by
13 program participants to carry out the purposes of this section;
14 provided that rules and forms to carry out subsection (e) shall
15 be adopted and prescribed by the department of taxation, in
16 consultation with the department.

17 (h) The department shall submit a report of its findings
18 and recommendations pertaining to the pilot program to the
19 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
20 the regular session of 2027. The report shall include:



- 1 (1) A record of pilot program activities and
- 2 accomplishments;
- 3 (2) A recommendation on whether the pilot program should
- 4 be continued, modified, or terminated, including
- 5 whether the assistance under the pilot program should
- 6 be extended to other correctional centers; and
- 7 (3) Any proposed legislation.

8 (i) As used in this Act:

9 "Child" means an unmarried individual who is under eighteen
10 years of age. "Child" includes a biological, adopted, or foster
11 child; a stepchild; and a legal ward.

12 "Child care facility" has the same meaning as in section
13 346-151, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

14 "Child care subsidy" has the same meaning as in section
15 346-151, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

16 "Department" means the department of public safety.

17 "Pilot program" means the five-year recidivism prevention
18 pilot program established pursuant to this Act.

19 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for



1 the implementation and operation of the five-year recidivism
2 prevention pilot program and for the establishment of five full-
3 time equivalent (5.00 FTE) permanent transition navigator
4 positions within the judiciary; provided that the transition
5 navigators shall provide assistance to individuals exiting the
6 women's community correctional center in successfully rejoining
7 their families and the community.

8 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the judiciary for
9 the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000, and
11 shall be repealed on July 1, 2027; provided that the tax credit
12 under section (e)(1) of this Act shall apply to taxable years
13 beginning after December 31, 2022, and ending before January 1,
14 2028.



Report Title:

Recidivism Prevention Pilot Program; Correctional Facilities;
Housing Voucher; Child Care Voucher; Employer Tax Credit;
Judiciary; Reentry Office; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes within the judiciary a five-year recidivism prevention pilot program consisting of three components: a housing voucher program, child care voucher program, and income tax credit for employers to assist the reentry efforts of certain individuals who exited the Women's Community Correctional Center, for two years after the exit. Establishes five transition navigator positions within the judiciary. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. Repeals 7/1/2027. (HD1)

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